

B2  
embodiment of the mold for producing the core outer layer of the golf ball of the present invention;--

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 14-16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B3  
--Fig. 3 is a schematic cross section illustrating one embodiment of the mold for producing the core of the golf ball of the present invention; and--

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 17-19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B4  
--Fig. 4 is a graphic illustration showing the relationship between the torque measured by a curastometer of the rubber composition of the present invention and time.--

Please replace the heading on page 6, line 20, with the following rewritten heading:

B5  
--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, lines 21-25, bridging page 7, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B6  
--The present invention provides a multi-piece solid golf ball comprising a core composed of a center and a core outer layer

B6 formed on the center, and a cover covering the core, wherein the core outer layer is formed from a rubber composition which does not contain a zinc salt of an unsaturated carboxylic acid.--

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Please replace the paragraph on page 7, lines 4-5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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B7 --(a) molding a rubber composition for a center in a spherical shape to form an unvulcanized rubber center,--

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, lines 11-25, bridging page 9, lines 1-8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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B8 --Fig. 2 is a schematic cross section illustrating one embodiment of the mold for producing the core outer layer of the golf ball of the present invention. Fig. 3 is a schematic cross section illustrating one embodiment of the mold for producing the core of the golf ball of the present invention. In the method of making the multi-piece solid golf ball of the present invention, a rubber composition for a core outer layer 7 is placed in a mold having a semi-spherical cavity 6, and either semi-vulcanized or heated to such a degree that the rubber composition neither semi-vulcanizes nor shrinks between the semi-spherical cavity and a male plug mold 5 as described in Fig. 2 to form a semi-vulcanized or unvulcanized semi-spherical half-shell for the core outer

B8  
layer. After removing the male plug mold 5, the unvulcanized center 1 is mounted on a concave of the semi-vulcanized or unvulcanized semi-spherical half-shell for the core outer layer 7 as described in Fig. 3, and a semi-vulcanized or unvulcanized semi-spherical half-shell for the core outer layer 7', separately formed in the same manner, is covered on the unvulcanized center, and integrally vulcanized to form a two-layered core 4. The core 4 is covered with the cover 3 to obtain a three-piece golf ball.--

Please replace the paragraph on page 9, lines 9-20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B9  
--The term "semi-vulcanized" as used herein refers to a state wherein a rubber composition is vulcanized but vulcanization stops before the crosslinking reaction is completely finished. The semi-vulcanized article can keep its molded shape, and can be further vulcanized to complete the crosslinking reaction when heating again. The semi-vulcanization may be preferably adjusted to a condition that when a torque is measured by a curastometer, the difference between a minimum torque value immediately after starting vulcanization and a maximum torque value when the vulcanization is completed is controlled within the range of 5 to 80%.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, lines 21-

25, bridging page 10, lines 1-23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B10 --A method of adjusting the condition of semi-vulcanization is as follows. The change of torque with time applied to a disc of the curastometer with time is measured from the unvulcanized state to the completely vulcanized state of the rubber composition. Fig. 4 is a graphic illustration showing the relation of a torque measured using a curastometer (JSR curastometer type III D manufactured by Orientech Co., Ltd.) from the unvulcanized state to the completely vulcanized state of the rubber composition with time. The larger the torque, the harder the rubber, because vulcanization is proceeded. The minimum torque value F appears at the time  $t_1$  immediately after starting the vulcanization, the torque gradually increases thereafter, and the maximum torque value G appears at the time  $t_4$  when the vulcanization is completed. In the present invention, the semi-vulcanized state means that when the torque is measured by a curastometer, a difference H between the minimum torque value F and the maximum torque value G is controlled within the range of 5 to 80%. If a torque I corresponding to 5% of the difference H appears at the time  $t_3$  and a torque J corresponding to 80% of the difference H appears at the time  $t_4$ , the semi-vulcanized state is obtained when vulcanization stops at a time between the time  $t_3$  and the time  $t_4$ . The measurement by the curastometer is conducted